

The Presbyterian Review.

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THURSDAY, JUNE 3RD, 1886.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

LAST week we gave a short summary of the proceedings of the recent meeting of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of England, and we propose now to draw attention to some features of special interest in her work.

Like our own it is a Church formed by union, though as yet the few congregations of the Church of Scotland in England have not been incorporated with it.

The temperance work of the Church, we note with special pleasure, is very vigorously carried on by the formation and operation of temperance societies as an integral part of the congregational work—a plan which we trust will yet be adopted in our own Canadian Church.

But to us the most interesting part of the report is the record of the progress made in foreign mission fields during the last ten years. In 1875 we find there were in China 12 ordained and 3 medical missionaries, 49 native evangelists and 66 stations; now there are 16 ordained and 6 medical missionaries, 2 medical teachers, 7 lady teachers and a membership in the mission churches of 3,312.

But it is in a portion of the foreign missionary field dear to our Canadian hearts where the zeal and energy of this Church may be seen most conspicuous. They occupy the southern part of Formosa and it is generally admitted have established there one of the most successful and best managed missions in the whole Christian Church.

mission work in China generally, but especially in Southern Formosa. We are not aware that the Presbyterian Church in Canada has ever fittingly acknowledged its obligations to the English Presbyterian Church for its most valuable help to our North Formosa mission.

But to return to the Synod. The report of the Jewish mission is also of much interest. Up to the past year their only field of labour among the Jews was in the city of London itself, but lately they have sent out a medical missionary, Dr. Ker, to Morocco, where there are said to be about 200,000 Jews with only one missionary labouring among them.

There are some other features in this report that we may return to, but in the meantime we shall conclude with greeting our sister Church of England with all Christian salutations.

JEWISH MISSIONS.

THE present Bishop of London, Dr. Temple, has the credit of saying that God elected the Greeks to be the ideal of beauty to the world; and the Romans to be the ideal of power to the world; and the Hebrews, because of their deep and mystical natures, to be the ideal of religion to the world.

Tribes of the wandering foot and weary breast, Where will ye fly away and be at rest? The wild dove hath her nest, the fox its cave, Mankind their country—Israel but the grave!

We Presbyterians have done nothing, or next to nothing. In the line of what our contributor "M. R. K." has been saying upon the importance of the Church giving some attention to this work we might repeat that there are two British societies operating in England and abroad for the conversion of the Jews—

others. Its income by last annual statement was about \$35,000. It was last presided over by Sir Culling Eardley Eardley, Bart. Presbyterians in Canada till they have a Jewish mission of their own, may safely send offerings to the Secretary of this Society, 96 Great Russell St., Bloomsbury Square, London, England.

THE General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America, consisting of nearly 500 delegates, met in Minneapolis, Minn., on May 20th. The Rev. E. R. Craven, D.D., having preached the opening sermon on the subject, "The Saviour's Reward," (Phil. 1, 29, 30) Rev. Dr. David C. Marquis, of Chicago, was elected Moderator.

If the position taken by Dr. Jardine in his able paper on the "Eldership" in last week's Review is correct, the fair inference is that the Ruling Elder is or ought to be eligible for the Moderatorship. And why should he not? Why should any man be a member of a Church Court or other deliberative and legislative body who is ineligible to any of its offices?

LAST Friday afternoon and evening our streets resounded with the cries of the newsboys shouting "Here you are! Globe-Mail-News-World-and-Telegram—all about the great prize-fight!"

THE AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND.

THERE is no fund of our Church in such a poor condition. The invested funds amount to very little, and last year the interest was not sufficient to pay the miserably small amount due to the large number of ministers now on the fund, and several more are being yearly added to the list.

Why is it needed at all? Because of the utterly inadequate salaries of the great majority of our ministers. Many of these men have devoted their hearts and lives—their whole life and strength to the service of the Church—after a long and expensive education of from eight to ten years, and then have lately received enough to pay current expenses.

In some cases they have had to spend several thousand dollars of private means, besides many years of excessive toil and care in the service of the Church, and have nothing left for old age but poverty and privation. And then after all this toil and sacrifice during forty or fifty years, all that is promised them is about \$200 a year, besides the retiring allowance they may receive from their congregations.

Should not all Christians realize that all that they have belongs to Christ, and should be used in such a way as will best promote His glory? He says, "Ye are not your own; ye are bought with a price." If some men are called to devote their whole time to the work of Christ, surely they should be properly sustained by their fellow Christians who devote themselves to making wealth.

The late James Leslie, of Eglinton, many years ago editor of the Toronto Examiner, when discussing the question of an established Church, to which he was opposed, yet stated that owing to the many calls upon a minister, and the expenses necessary to maintain his position aright, that he should receive a salary "three times as large as the average income of his people."

But what shall we say of an aged minister having to depend on the highest amount now paid, namely, about \$200 a year? Let educated men who spend their thousands imagine, if they can, the misery thus caused. That justice demands that at least such a provision should be made for disabled ministers as was contemplated by the committee becomes more evident when we consider the generous provision made by the civil service for servants of the public, they being generally allowed about half of their ample salary when superannuated.

Now in order to insure that small annuity to ministers of \$10 per year of service we require a fund of \$100,000, and that to be supplemented by the yearly collections throughout the Church and by the ministers' rates. Many ministers would be willing to increase the amount of their rate if only assured of such provision for old age. Far better double the rate if necessary than be kept down to the present paltry annuity.

